

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A security ~~thread~~ tag comprising:

a thread including a core member selectively having either -

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread bundled with the fiber coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material contacting and covering said core member;

~~whereby said security thread forms~~ forming a loop in use; and

a label passing through the thread and secured thereto.

11. (Currently Amended) A security ~~thread~~ tag comprising:

A thread including a core member selectively having either -

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread bundled with the fiber coextensive therewith;

a member bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith and made of a semi-hard magnetic material which can deactivate a magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material covering said core member and said member made of said semi-hard magnetic material in such a manner that said cover member is in

contact with either or both of said core member and said member made of said semi-hard magnetic material;

~~whereby~~-said security thread ~~forms~~forming a loop ~~in use~~; and
a label passing through the thread and secured thereto.

12. (Currently Amended) A security thread comprising:

a core member selectively having either -

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread bundled with the fiber coextensive therewith;

a thermal welding thread bundled with said core member coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material covering said core member and said thermal welding thread in such a manner that said cover member is in contact with either or both of said core member and said thermal welding thread;

~~whereby~~-said security thread ~~forms~~forming a loop in use.

13. (Currently Amended) A security ~~thread~~tag comprising:

a thread including a core member selectively having either -

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread bundled with the fiber and coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material contacting and covering said core member;

~~whereby~~ said security thread ~~forms~~ forming a loop ~~in use~~; and

a label passing through the thread and secured thereto.

14. (Currently Amended) A security ~~thread~~ tag comprising:

a thread including a core member selectively having either –

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread bundled with the fiber and coextensive therewith;

a member bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith and made of a semi-hard magnetic material which can deactivate the magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material contacting and covering said core member;

~~whereby~~ said security thread ~~forms~~ forming a loop ~~in use~~; and

a label passing through the thread and secured thereto.

15. (Currently Amended) A security thread comprising:

a core member selectively having either –

a) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or

b) a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread bundled with the fiber and coextensive therewith;

a member bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith and made of a semi-hard magnetic material which can deactivate the magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material;

a thermal welding thread bundled with said core member and coextensive therewith; and

a cover member made of a nonmetal material contacting and covering said core member and said thermal thread;

whereby said security thread ~~forms~~ forming a loop in use.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~ article according to any one of claims 10 to 15 wherein said soft magnetic material is made of an amorphous metal.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~ article according to claim 16, wherein said amorphous metal is mainly made of Co-Fe-Si-B.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~ article according to any one of claims 10 to 15 wherein said soft magnetic material is made of an amorphous metal ribbon.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~ article according to claim 18, wherein said amorphous metal ribbon is mainly made of Co-Fe-Si-B.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~article according to any one of claims 10 to 15 wherein said soft magnetic material is made of a Ni-Fe alloy known as permeability alloy.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~security thread~~article according to any one of claims 10 to 15 wherein said soft magnetic material is made of an Fe-Si based alloy.

22. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing method of a security thread comprising the steps of:

preparing a core member having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread by bundling the same with the fiber coextensively therewith;

covering a periphery of said core member by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said periphery is surrounded by said cover member and is not exposed; and

deforming said security thread so that said security thread forms a loop in use.

23. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing method of a security thread comprising the steps of:

preparing a core member having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread by bundling the same with the fiber coextensively therewith;

covering a periphery of said core member by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said periphery is surrounded by said cover member and is not exposed; and

deforming said security thread so that said security thread forms a loop in use.

24. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a security ~~thread-tag~~ comprising the steps of:

preparing a thread including a core member selectively having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread by bundling the same with the fiber coextensively therewith;

~~disposing a member to be in contact with said core member and made of a~~ laying a member of a semi-hard magnetic material in contact with a length of the soft magnetic member ~~which can deactivate for selectively deactivating~~ a magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material;

covering a periphery of said core member and a periphery of said member made of said semi-hard magnetic material by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said both peripheries are surrounded by said cover member, and said both peripheries are not exposed; ~~and~~

deforming said security thread so that said security thread forms a loop ~~in use;~~ and

passing the thread through a label for securement of the label thereon.

25. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a security ~~thread-tag~~ comprising the steps of:

preparing a thread including a core member selectively having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a

magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal and a core thread;

~~disposing a member to be in contact with said core member and made of a~~ laying a member of a semi-hard magnetic material in contact with a length of the soft magnetic member which can deactivate for selectively deactivating a magnetic characteristic of the soft magnetic material;

covering a periphery of said core member and a periphery of said member made of said semi-hard magnetic material by a cover member made of a nonmetal material so that said both peripheries are not exposed; and

deforming said security thread ~~so that said security thread forms to form a loop in use;~~ and

passing the thread through a label for securement of the label thereon.

26. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a security ~~thread-tag~~ comprising the steps of:

preparing a thread including a core member selectively having fiber made of a soft magnetic material permeability of 1000 or more, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material having permeability of 1000 or more and a core thread;

~~disposing~~ laying a thermal welding thread ~~to be in contact with a length of~~ said core member; and

covering a periphery of said core member and said thermal welding thread by a cover member made of a nonmetal material;

deforming said security thread to form a loop; and

passing the thread through a label for securement of the label thereon.

27. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a security ~~thread-tag~~ comprising the steps of:

preparing a thread including a core member selectively having a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reversal, or a fiber made of a soft magnetic material indicating a magnetic characteristic with a large Barkhausen discontinuity to rapidly cause magnetization reverse and a core thread;

~~disposing~~ laying a thermal welding thread to be in contact with a length of said core member; and

covering a periphery of said core member and said thermal welding thread by a cover member made of a nonmetal material;

deforming said security thread to form a loop; and

passing the thread through a label for securement of the label thereon.